Applicant: Kenneth W. Whitley Application No.: 10/666,157 Filing Date: September 19, 2003

Page 2 of 8

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

 (Currently Amended) A <u>combination</u> stackable roller bottle for cell-growth culturing comprising:

a first roller bottle for cell growth culturing;

a cap mounted onto said first roller bottle, said cap having an open orifice formed therethrough; and,

a second roller bottle for cell growth culturing, said second roller bottle having an elongate cylindrical wall having a closed bottom end and an opposed projecting neck portion end defining a liquid opening, said closed bottom end including an inwardly directed recessed portion for accommodating said a cap mounted onto said first roller bottle neck portion end of an adjacent stacked similar container, said recessed portion including a planar surface having at least one rib extending therefrom for defining a space between said open orifice of said cap of said similar container and said planar surface, said recessed portion further including a side wall extending from said planar surface away from said neck portion end, wherein said side wall being configured to define a gap between said side wall and said cap of said-adjacent-stacked similar-container, said gap being in communication with said space, wherein said space permits gases to pass in and out of said open orifice of said cap.

## 2. - 3. (Cancelled).

(Currently Amended) The container combination of claim 1, wherein said rib is integral
with said planar surface.

Applicant: Kenneth W. Whitley Application No.: 10/666,157 Filing Date: September 19, 2003

Page 3 of 8

(Cancelled).

(Currently Amended) The container combination of claim 1, wherein said rib radiates in
a direction from the longitudinal axis of the container toward said side wall of said recessed
portion where said rib terminates.

 (Currently Amended) The eontainer combination of claim 1, wherein a plurality of said ribs is provided, and said ribs are spaced about the longitudinal axis of the container.

- (Currently Amended) The e-ortainer combination of claim 1, wherein said recessed portion is generally frustoconical in shape.
- (Currently Amended) The eentainer combination of claim 1, wherein said neck includes integral external screw threads for receiving an internally screw threaded cap thereon.
- 10. (Cancelled).
- 11. (Currently Amended) The assembly combination of claim 1 40, wherein said cap further includes a central orifice extending through said top surface; and a gas permeable membrane which is affixed to an interior side of said top surface to extend across close said open orifice.
- 12. 14. (Cancelled).
- 15. (Withdrawn) A method of stacking containers for cell growth culturing comprising: providing a first container having a closed bottom end and an opposed projecting neck portion end defining a liquid opening, said closed bottom end including an inwardly directed recessed portion, said recessed portion including a planar surface having at least one rib extending therefrom;

providing a second container; and

Applicant: Kenneth W. Whitley Application No.: 10/666,157 Filing Date: September 19, 2003

Page 4 of 8

stacking said first container and said second container with said neck portion of said second container being nested in said recessed portion of said first container, wherein said rib spaces said neck portion of said second container from said planar surface of said first container.

- (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said first and said second containers are stackable roller bottles.
- 17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said rib is integral with said planar surface.
- (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said recessed portion further includes a side wall.
- 19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein said rib radiates from a point proximal to the longitudinal axis of the container toward said side wall of said recessed portion where said rib terminates.
- 20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19, wherein a plurality of said ribs is provided, and said ribs are about equally spaced about the longitudinal axis of the container.